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ABSTRACT

The Nebraska Technical Community College Association (NTCCA) was formed to coordinate the mutual interests of the six autonomous Nebraska Technical Community College Areas, politically distinct entities governed by locally elected boards. This annual report provides a general review of the significant activities and accomplishments of the NTCCA during 1989, a performance review of the NTCCA office and staff, plans for the coming year, and long-range planning objectives. The report's six sections contain the following: (1) a brief history of the NTCCA and a review of its organizational structure and committees; (2) short messages from the NTCCA president and the executive director; (3) a review of the association's recent efforts to secure funding for five critical needs areas (i.e., upgrading faculty and staff salaries, expanding economic development services, reducing property tax levies, implementing new programs, and meeting the growth requirements of inflation and enrollment), an examination of recent state educational legislation, a review of NTCCA research activities, and a discussion of preparations made for the second session of the 91st State Legislature; (4) a review of activities and events held during NTCCA's annual meeting and legislative seminar; (5) a discussion of other NTCCA activities, including involvement in professional organizations, special scholarship awards, a conservation program, and special workshops; and (6) the Fiscal Year (FY) 1989 NTCCA budget, including comparisons with FY87 and FY88, and an analysis of total dues by area. (GFW)

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ANNUAL REPORT

1989

Nebraska Technical
Community College Association

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1989 Annual Report

to the Board of Directors
of the Nebraska Technical Community College Association

Prepared July 1990

by

the NTCCA Office, 635 South 14th Street, Suite 340, Lincoln, NE 68508

PREFACE

The 1989 Nebraska Technical Community College Association Annual Report, which covers the period from January 1, 1989 through December 31, 1989, provides a general review of significant activities and accomplishments of the NTCCA Board of Directors, a performance review of the NTCCA office and staff, direction for the coming year's NTCCA efforts, and long-range planning. The report is intended to help the Association assess the efficacy of its activities and continually improve its cooperative service to the six Technical Community College Areas.

NTCCA BEGINNINGS

The six Nebraska Technical Community College Areas are statutorily constituted as autonomous political subdivisions governed by locally elected eleven-member boards. However, in 1977, these local governing boards recognized the desirability of coordination among the six Areas and created a statewide organization for board members. This organization became the Nebraska Technical Community College Association (NTCCA) in 1980. The general goals as set forth in the original Association bylaws are "to promote the welfare and common good of Nebraska's Technical Community College Areas and to advance the concepts of technical community college education."

When the permanent Association office was established in September 1983, the NTCCA Board of Directors outlined three broad goals for the staff:

1) To represent the interests of the Technical Community Colleges at the state level by providing accurate, timely, and persuasive information and position statements to members of the Legislature, the Governor's office, State agencies, and commissions;

2) To achieve maximum effectiveness of the Technical Community Colleges as a system by fostering coordination, cooperation, and communication among the Areas and between the Areas and external entities; and,

3) To provide the widest possible access to Technical Community College programs and to justify the use of local taxes in the Technical Community College system by assisting the Areas in informing communities, industries, and policy-makers of the programs and activities available through local Areas.

ORGANIZATION

The NTCCA office carries out its activities under the direction of the NTCCA Board of Directors, composed of 12 members, two from each of the six Community College Area Boards of Governors. In 1989, the NTCCA Board members were:

Executive Committee

President - Richard Corkle, Northeast
Vice President - John Moore, Western
Secretary - Karen Johnson, Southeast
Treasurer - Jack Donelson (replaced by Kent Miller) Mid-Plains

Directors

William Doran, Central
Ken Wortman, Central
Dr. Nancy O'Brien, Metro
J. Leonard Farrell (replacing Jack Donelson), Mid-Plains
Betty Barr, Metropolitan
Dr. Helen Morten, Northeast
Tom Moloney, Southeast
Gary Warner, Western

(Jack Donelson resigned from the Board prior to the special NTCCA Board meeting in June)

Committees

Additionally, the NTCCA Board of Directors has six standing committees dealing with 1) Legislation, 2) Long-Range Planning, 3) Budget and Personnel, 4) Education and Seminars, 5) Association Audit, and 6) Awards. In 1989, committee members were:

Legislative

Betty Barr
Richard Corkle
J. Leonard Farrell
Tom Moloney
John Moore
Ken Wortman

Long-Range Planning

William Doran
Karen Johnson
Kent Miller
Dr. Helen Morten
Dr. Nancy O'Brien
Gary Warner

Budget & Personnel

Richard Corkle
William Doran
Kent Miller
Karen Johnson

Education & Seminars

Richard Corkle
Dr. Helen Morten
Gary Warner
Dr. Robert Cox

Audit

J. Leonard Farrell (replacing Jack Donelson)
Ken Wortman

Awards

John Moore
Dr. William Hasemeyer
Ken Wortman

Other Bodies

The NTCCA Board also appoints representatives to the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and the Steering Committee of the Nebraska Council for Public Higher Education. In 1989, these representatives were: Betty Barr to the Coordinating Commission, Dick Corkle as alternate, and Kent Miller and Dr. Nancy O'Brien to the Steering Committee, John Moore alternate. The NTCCA also sanctions a Council of Presidents and other inter-Area coordinating bodies to facilitate statewide administration, policy development, and implementation.

Council of Presidents

Dr. Joseph Preusser, Central	Dr. Robert Cox, Northeast
Dr. J. Richard Gilliland, Metro	Dr. Robert Eicher, Southeast
Dr. William Hasemeyer, Mid-Plains	Dr. John Harms, Western

In 1989, the Association continued to employ three full-time administrative staff members, one legal/legislative counsel, and one legislative counsel. The office remained in the Roman Hruska Law Center at 635 South 14th Street, Suite 340, in Lincoln.

Administrative Staff

Thomas S. Johnston Executive Director	Sharon A. Howell Administrative Assistant
Robert J. Waddell Information Specialist	Tom Vickers Legislative Counsel

CONTENTS

PREFACE i
NTCCA Beginnings i
Organization ii

MESSAGES FROM NTCCA EXECUTIVES 1
From the President 1
From the Executive Director 2

EFFORTS GENERATE RESULTS 3
Legislative Summary 4
Preparations for Second Session of 91st Legislature 7

ANNUAL MEETING & LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR 10

OTHER ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES 12

1989 NTCCA BUDGET SUMMARY 15
NTCCA Budget Comparison - Fiscal Years '87, '88, and '89 16
NTCCA FY '89 Total Dues by Area 17

MESSAGES FROM NTCCA EXECUTIVES

From the President

It was a difficult, but rewarding year for me as President of the NTCCA Board of Directors in 1989. As soon as the very successful legislative session was over, other issues crowded onto our calendar, which is usually fairly clear during the summer months. And they were not easy issues, dealing with governance and funding.

The most difficult task for me the last half of the year was to guide discussions through some sticky debate and still help preserve the board's unity. Though, at times, it may have appeared that the NTCCA couldn't come to agreement, we came through it well and, I think, more able to tackle whatever lies ahead. I look forward to "speaking with our one voice" during, hopefully, an even more successful 1990.

RICHARD CORKLE

From the Executive Director

1989 was a watershed year for the Community Colleges. The Colleges faced major issues all year, beginning with the Legislative session in which, first the Governor recommended, and then the Legislature provided the largest increase in State-aid in the system's history, to the final NTCCA Board meeting where agreement was reached on adding an equalization calculation to the State-aid distribution formula. After five years of budget cuts in the mid-1980s, the Colleges had to have significant increases in State-aid to maintain quality and meet the demands for new programs in high tech fields, health care, and job training for business and industry. Fortunately, the case made by the Colleges was obviously persuasive to both the Governor and the Legislature.

However, despite the external success of the Legislative session, the internal on-going concerns about the equality of edcational opportunity and even the viability of some parts of the system, caused the NTCCA Board to reexamine the State-aid distribution formula. The Board ultimately decided that "equalization" based on the ability to pay, namely the ability of each Area to generate relatively proportional amounts of local funds, should be included in the State-aid formula. (This decision paralleled the new funding formula proposed for the K-12 system.) However, the Board also felt strongly that a system-wide efficiency study should be conducted to assure that all Areas were using current funding as effectively as possible.

Ultimately, the success of this year, and the continued success of the Association in the future, resulted from the ability of NTCCA and Area Board members to show strong, unified support for the system to the Governor and Legislature, on the one hand, and the willingness to work together and compromise for the good of the system, on the other.

THOMAS S. JOHNSTON

EFFORTS GENERATE RESULTS

The thorough and comprehensive planning done during the latter half of 1988 was carried out during this legislative session and helped to secure a very significant increase in Community College State-aid funding. State-aid appropriations to the Community College Areas increased 19 percent for the FY 1989-91 biennium over the level appropriated in the previous biennium.

Five Critical Needs

Efforts began with a computer generated video budget display, a "Report to the Governor," and a newly formatted budget document. The video, prepared by Dave Koebel and other Metro Area staff, and presented to members of the Appropriations Committee at the Community Colleges' budget hearing on March 3, encapsulated the Areas' budget priorities for the 1989-91 biennium.

The "Budget Report and State-aid Request," was produced for the first time by the NTCCA Office with information provided by the six Areas. And, for the first time, the budget book was preceded by presentation to Governor Kay Orr of a formal budget request document. Both request documents, each of which included an "Executive Summary," departed from the format in previous budget documents in more fully explaining the needs of the Community Colleges based on Board-identified budget priorities, with most statistical figures appended. The NTCCA focused its legislative efforts on getting a "significant and sustained increase" in State-aid. The NTCCA Board of Directors targeted five crucial Community College needs: 1) to upgrade faculty and staff salaries, 2) to expand and strengthen economic development services, 3) to reduce property tax levies, 4) to implement new programs necessary for regional and state development, and 5) to meet the growth requirements of inflation and enrollment. Each and all of these rationale were linked to previous inadequate levels of State appropriations.

The biennium State-aid requests also highlighted several major national and state studies that added weight to the arguments put forth in support of Area needs. The requests quote the studies, most of which were released in 1988 and most of which specifically named community colleges as the essential educational institutions for developing and delivering critically needed job training and retraining to make U.S. and Nebraska business and industry competitive in increasingly high-tech world markets.

The budget document clearly explained the rationale for critical Community College needs. During the previous five years, the Colleges' State-aid appropriations base fell 1 percent while the Higher Education Price Index (HEPI) rose nearly 21 percent. During the same period, the combined property tax revenues climbed 38 percent and student tuition charges jumped 32 percent. Simultaneously, the number of Nebraskans served by Technical Community Colleges rose 32 percent.

Additional attention was drawn to Area needs as Dr. John Harms, president of the Western Area, and others brought the plight of Western to the attention of the Governor and legislators. The Western Area, near the cap on its property tax levy as well as Mid-Plains, would be unable to generate enough revenue through local sources and State-aid to continue operating without additional funding from the State. Area needs were exacerbated by court decisions exempting railroad and pipeline property from State taxation. These issues became a focal point of discussions at NTCCA Board meetings as well as in the Governor's and in legislative chambers.

LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The final *Legislative Memo* of June 6, after the first session of the 91st Legislature had adjourned on Wednesday, May 24, characterized the session well, "Nebraska's Community Colleges have most successful year." Recognizing the great value of Community Colleges and the need for a better balance between state and local revenue, Governor Kay A. Orr proposed a $9.3 million increase for the Community College Areas for the FY 1989-91 biennium during the first session of the Legislature in 1989, which the Governor dubbed the "Year of the Taxpayer."

Legislation

LB 813 (replacing LB 304 as the Appropriations Committee bill for State government operations) as approved by the Legislature and signed by the Governor appropriated General Funds in the amount of $26,999,702 for FY 1989-90, an 18.28 percent increase over the previous fiscal year, and $32,147,817 for FY 1990-91, a 19.07 percent increase. Also passed and signed was LB 305, a Cash Fund appropriation of $450,000 in both fiscal years for vocational faculty and equipment upgrading and job training. LB 813 contained the appropriations for LB 305 which uses a portion of state unemployment insurance penalty funds. The bill also provided for $1 million of these funds for job training through the Department of Economic Development.

LB 651E, the State Scholarship Award Program Act, also was passed and signed creating the Scholarship Assistance Program and appropriating $760,677 for each year of the biennium. It also created the State Scholarship Award Program and appropriated $222,461 for both fiscal years. Although the legislation changed the percentages of dollars available to public and private postsecondary institutions, the Community College Areas would not lose any dollars because of the increase in aid dollars appropriated to the two funds.

Additionally, LB 395, allowing the Northeast Area to exceed the $200,000 capital construction limit, was passed and signed by the Governor. Lack of facilities at Northeast prompted Area officials to seek authorization to build multi-purpose instruction facilities such as general education classrooms, microcomputer laboratories, nursing education laboratories, and faculty work spaces.

Among legislation carried over to the January 1990 Second Session were: LB 735 to provide additional funding for education student computing, including $3 million for the TCCs; LB 143, a technical bill; LB 590 to provide for additional funding for TCC salary upgrading and professional development; LB 140 establishing a tax credit for contributions to a savings account for students; LB 180 to provide free tuition for people over 60 years of age; and LB 468 to change provisions for student aid funds making the state grants "sector blind".

One piece of legislation supported by the Community Colleges and passed by the Legislature was vetoed by the Governor. LB 357E, the Nursing Student Tuition Assistance and Rural Practice Incentive Act, and an accompanying appropriations bill would have provided $249,175 in General Funds for nursing scholarships.

Higher Education Study

One significant bill that originally would not have affected the Community Colleges was LB 247, the effort to place Kearney State College into the University of Nebraska system. However, the bill in its final form, LB 247E, added the creation of a study committee to develop a strategic plan for higher education in the state. The LB 247 study committee was to work with an advisory committee having sector representation. The NTCCA Board, at its second quarter meeting May 20, supported the Steering Committee of the Nebraska Council for Public Higher Education recommendation that it be allowed to serve on the advisory committee. However, an advisory committee with sector representation was not appointed and each sector provided input separately.

Dr. Patricia Widmayer, Dr. Harold Enarson, and Dr. Carl Trendler of Widmayer and Associates of Chicago, hired as consultants for the study, subsequently visited the six Areas and met with representatives of the Areas and the NTCCA regarding issues of concern to the colleges and the coordination of higher education in the state. On November 29, the consultants issued their Phase I report, "Toward More Effective Governance and Coordination of Nebraska Higher Education: A Report to the LB 247 Postsecondary Education Study Committee State of Nebraska," regarding governance and coordination of public higher education. Phase II of the report, due in November 1990, will examine role and mission in higher education.

LB 247 Report

The consultants' Phase I report to the LB 247 study committee recommended major changes in both governance and coordination of public higher education institutions in Nebraska, but rejected the idea of a "super board." After recounting problems with the status quo, especially what the consultants saw as a lack of coordination, the report clearly delineated the differences between governance and coordination and suggested changes in both governance and coordiantion for the seven baccalaureate institutions and for overall coordination.

Coordination is not the same as governance. Coordination is concerned primarily with the state and system perspective - the framework within which governance takes place. Governance, on the other hand, relates to the direction and operation of individual institutions or groups of institutions. - Aims McGuiness (quoted on p. 38)

However, recommendations would affect only coordination of Community Colleges, the consultants affirming the value of local control for the governance of all sectors.

Lay boards of trustees offer the best promise for the governance of the individual campuses. They are, in Clark Kerr's word the "guardians" of the welfare, integrity, and accountability of the institution. ... The special genius of the lay board is that it serves as a bridge to the community and the public at large. When we urge that each Technical Community College continue to be governed by its own Area Board of Governors, we acknowledge something that works well in Nebraska. When we propose that each public four-year college and university be governed by its own board of trustees, ... we propose something that works and has made American higher education the strongest in the world. (pp. 48, 53, 54.)

For coordination of higher education in Nebraska, the report recommended abolishing the Nebraska Coordinating Commission for Postsecondary Education and replacing it with a Council on Coordination composed of a gubernatorial-appointed chairperson, three Regents, three NTCCA members, three Independent College and University Association members, the Commissioner of Education, two senators, and the Governor. The seven public baccalaureate institutions would be coordinated by a "New Board of Regents" and the Community Colleges by the NTCCA.

We recommend that the present system of governance by regionally elected lay Boards of Governors, over the six Nebraska Technical Community College Areas, with coordination and oversight by the Nebraska Technical Community College Association, be continued. ... Coordination of locally governed Technical Community Colleges by the voluntary statewide Association will be challenging but there is encouraging evidence that this Association acts responsibly and in the best interest of Nebraska and can be looked to for continuing its coordinating activities. (pp. 48, 49)

A Gallup survey of public opinion, which was commissioned by the study committee validated the excellent job Nebraskans perceive that the Community Colleges are doing:

Nebraskans felt that the two-year community colleges in the state were doing "very well" in meeting the educational needs of Nebraskans. Nebraskans felt that the public four-year state colleges and universities were doing "somewhat well" in meeting the educational needs of Nebraskans. (appendix)

Legislation to be drafted for the 1990 session of the Legislature would attempt to put the study's recommendations into law.

Other Interim Studies

Several other legislative resolutions called for studies that have potential impact on the six Community College Areas. The Association Office was to monitor LR 71 on state retirement systems, LR 113 on small business incubators, LR 114 on unemployed job training program, LR 118 on status of Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture at Curtis, LR 162 on postsecondary student computer accessibility, LR 184 on private-partnerships in education, LR 185 on educational accountability systems, and LR 201 on economic development policies and programs to assist businesses and communities.

PREPARATIONS FOR SECOND SESSION OF 91ST LEGISLATURE

Issues of Community College funding and governance, brought about by funding problems in the Western Area, and considerations of the LB 247 study weighed heavily in preparations for the second session of the 91st Legislature.

On May 19, Senator Jerome Warner, chairman of the Legislature's Appropriation Committee, spoke with the NTCCA Board of Directors, Area Presidents, and the NTCCA staff about funding and governance issues. At the invitation of Tom Johnston, NTCCA executive director, Senator Warner made candid remarks about how he thought the Legislature would deal with the issue of the Community College funding formula if the Community Colleges were unable to resolve their problems on their own. He said, "If you don't solve the problem, someone else will." He also said the increase in appropriations to the Community Colleges "in part, was necessitated to assist Western ... but that's not going to be a solution that is going to be duplicated." Senator Warner also counseled the Areas to "speak with one voice" in their lobbying with legislators.

The following day, at its second quarterly meeting, the NTCCA Board directed the Council of Presidents to meet prior to a special meeting and make recommendations to the Board on funding and governance issues. At a June 5 meeting, the Council of Presidents recommended that the major goal of any proposals suggested to address the Western Area's funding concerns should maintain the Colleges' current system of local governance and control while attempting to address Western's needs for more general operating funds.

The Presidents reported on several possible funding mechanisms and recommended that whatever method was chosen be drafted into legislation ready for the 1990 legislative session and be implemented in July 1991. The Board, at a special meeting on June 9, adopted these two suggestions and set a timetable to consider funding options to address Western's funding concerns.

At a special NTCCA Board meeting on September 15, the Council of Presidents, which had met and conducted conference calls on the funding issue, reported agreement that the problem was not just a Western problem, but was a problem of the entire system, since at least four Areas could in time face the same funding problems as Western. The Presidents also recommended that an efficiency study be undertaken. The Board subsequently approved up to $60,000 to commission a study of the Community College system in accord with a draft Request For Proposal submitted by the executive director. At the September meeting, the Board also approved the drafting of legislation for alternative funding options. The Board approved the drafting of legislation for a 1700-1900 REU base and to institute a three-year rolling average on REUs and directed the Council of Presidents to prepare documentation on a proposal for equalization to be considered at a special meeting in December. Then at an Oct. 13 meeting, the Board delayed consideration of the study.

At the December 15 meeting, the NTCCA Board of Directors approved creation of a new Community College Equalization and Efficiency Fund. Legislation to seek establishment of the fund would be drafted prior to the 1990 legislative session and sponsors secured. To be eligible for the fund, any Area would have to exceed the system's three-year average tax levy. The amount an Area would receive would be based on how much the Area's average levy exceeded the average levy for the system (Western and Mid-Plains initially would have qualified for such funding). Legislation would establish a new fund of up to $1 million, the revenue coming from a part of any new State-aid appropriated in FY 1991-92 and beyond. Intent language for the proposed bill was expanded during the meeting to include the following:

> *The Legislature in an effort to promote quality postsecondary education and to avoid disproportionate taxation upon the taxable property of each Area, hereby creates the Technical Community College Equalization and Efficiency Fund. It is further the intent of the Legislature that funds distributed shall be used to the extent possible to provide quality programming and reduce local property tax levies.*

Budget Request Priorities

The NTCCA Board of Directors approved five funding priorities for the 1990 legislative session at a special meeting on June 9. The five issues were allied health, library automation, telecommunications, integrated higher education learning centers, and student computer needs. At a November 10 meeting, the Board selected two of the five issues, rural health care and telecommunications, and trimmed its deficit appropriations request to $1.3 million. Also the NTCCA decided at that meeting that it would support LB 735, Senator Scott Moore's bill, which would provide funding for computers for student/teaching needs.

Allied Health

Funding would be sought for new Associate Degree Nursing programs at the Northeast and Southeast Areas, for Physical Therapy programs at the Mid-Plains and Western Areas, and for a Physical Therapy program that was jointly planned at the Central, Mid-Plains, and Western Areas. In seeking only two new ADN programs, the Areas were abiding by a request by Governor Orr to the Coordinating Commission that in the remaining Areas the number of nursing student slots not be increased. Consequently, the other Areas agreed to a slot-for-slot tradeoff between LPN and ADN programs. All Areas except Western, which had a cooperative agreement with the University of Nebraska, were making plans to implement ADN programs.

Telecommunications

Statewide telecommunications became a hot topic during the winter of 1988. At the first quarter meeting of the NTCCA Board of Directors, Dr. Richard Gilliland, president of Metropolitan Community College Area, reported on the progress of meetings held after a request by the University of Nebraska for several million dollars of State funding to be matched by the federal government to replace the 25-year-old microwave equipment that feeds Nebraska Public Television all across Nebraska. Governor Orr indicated her support to replace the equipment with a satellite transponder if there were a coordinated plan to include all of education; public schools, community colleges, state colleges, independent colleges, independent and public universities, the Coordinating Commission, ETV, and the Nebraska Division of Communications. Two general meetings were held and a committee formed with representatives of all these organizations. All institutions were to prepare a statement on their planned usage of the system and ability to finance costs of usage.

Dr. Gilliland said it was very important for the Community Colleges to be a key player in this project to gain access to the educational telecommunications system for continuing education so other sectors do not become more substantially involved in this across the state and provide services currently offered by the Colleges. The NTCCA Board decided to include telecommunications among funding priorities for the 1990 legislative session at a special meeting June 9. The Community Colleges would seek significant dollars to link campuses, intra-Area, inter-Area, and into the educational telecommunications system. Metro, which already has a system, would be included for operating funds and expansion links. A five-year plan was to be developed at a cost of around $10 million. The NU plan tied in Columbus, Grand Island, Norfolk, and Scottsbluff and, it was felt, all campuses could be tied in with funding.

At a special meeting on September 15, the Board ratified a resolution in support of the activities of the Nebraska Educational Telecommunications Planning Group. The group planned to have legislation introduced in the 1990 session to include a Community College representative on the NETV Board of Directors and to include the Areas in an aggregate budget request to be submitted to the Legislature for funding of Phase II. The group also is working on combined learning centers as part of this activity.

ANNUAL MEETING & LEGISLATIVE SEMINAR

The general consensus of the Board after the Annual Meeting and Legislative Seminar on February 2 was that it was the best meeting ever, with excellent speakers and topics. Presentations by David Viar, executive director of the Association of Community College Trustees, and Senator William Barrett, speaker of the Nebraska Legislature, set an inspirational tone for the other sessions and the round-table discussions. The approximately 60 Area Governors and others in attendance were further inspired by the annual award winners.

Morning sessions got underway with a welcome by NTCCA Board President Richard Corkle and a presentation by the host Mid-Plains Area President Dr. William Hasemeyer. Dr. Hasemeyer highlighted two Mid-Plains programs, the Mobile Metals Van and the Tuesday College.

During the day's second session, "Trustee Leadership in Building Communities," Mr. Viar summarized "Building Communities: A Vision for the 21st Century," an AACJC report covering aspects of two-year college concerns and college education reform. Mr. Viar advised Area Trustees and Presidents to work together in using the report to identify strategies for change, including college budgets, timetables, and evaluations.

Senator Barrett introduced the topic for Session III, "New Horizons for Nebraska," which he described as "a process" that examines Nebraska's quality of life and its future. The senator contrasted the "New Horizons" process with the "New Seeds for Nebraska" project, which he said is concerned only with economic development. Rod Armstrong, New Horizons Project Director and Legislative Research Analyst, in continuing the presentation, suggested that the Community Colleges identify any campus facilities that could be used for small-business incubators.

During the fourth session, Dr. Richard Gilliland, President of Metropolitan Community College Area and Chairman of the Council of Presidents' Legislative Committee, Tom Vickers, the NTCCA legislative counsel, and NTCCA Executive Director Tom Johnston discussed the 1989 legislative priorities and other issues facing the Colleges in the 1989 Unicameral session.

Mr. Viar provided a highlight for the conference during his second appearance as keynote speaker during the NTCCA Awards Luncheon. His talk, "A Promising Future Doesn't Just Happen," was an appeal for unity and hard work in improving all aspects of community college education at a time when "community colleges are being ... put under a microscope. ... unfortunately, what I have observed is that our state policy makers seem to end up focusing the attention and our energies on the governance battle ...." Mr. Viar said governance was not the key, but rather "trust, working together, and speaking with one voice. ... Trustees can make a difference by knowing their roles and by working together in harmony with the presidents."

In Session V, Dr. Gilliland and Mr. Johnston reviewed 1988 Association highlights. Then during the sixth and seventh sessions, attendees broke up into three round-table discussion groups by: Dr. Helen Morten, Northeast Community College board member, on "Governor's Perceptions of Role and Mission"; Dr. Gilliland on "Telecommunications: Opportunity and Challenge for the Technical Community Colleges"; and Mr. Viar on "Strengthening Better Boards."

Mr. Vickers and Mr. Johnston concluded the Legislative Seminar with a session whimsically titled "Lobbying - Tonight, Tomorrow, and Forever" that emphasized the importance of trustees as lobbyists with the Governor and Legislature. Both presenters said that the success of the NTCCA in the past, and especially this year with the Governor's budget recommendation, was the result of a united sustained effort, which, for better or worse, must now be viewed as an ongoing part of the Community College system's efforts.

1988 NTCCA Annual Award Winners

Recipients of the 1988 Annual Awards, presented at the luncheon of the Annual Meeting & Legislative Seminar, were:

Governor's Award	**Ken Wortman**, Central CC Area
President's Award	**James E. Doyle**, Mid-Plains CC Area
Faculty Member Award	**John C. Bishop**, Western CC Area

Distinguished Alumni Awards

The 1989 Distinguished Alumni Award winners for 1989, their occupations, and the Community College Areas they represent were:

Dr. Lynn Black; Dean of Students, Central CC Grand Island; Central
Fred Piccolo Jr.; owner/president of Piccolo's Heating & Cooling of Omaha; Metro
Curtis E. Weber; auditor with Arthur Andersen & Co., Omaha; Southeast
Dr. Cecilia Kitto Wilch; Health Systems Administrator at Rosebud Indian Health Services Hospital, Rosebud, S.D.; Northeast
Donald Kaplan; manager of Ogallala Airport and owner of Central States Aircraft Inc., Ogallala; Western
Dr. Henry O. Weeth; dentist, Seattle, Wash.; Mid-Plains

OTHER ASSOCIATION ACTIVITIES

Association of Community College Trustees

Betty Barr, member of the Metropolitan Community College Area Board of Governors served as an at-large member of the ACCT national board and as chairperson of the Western Region. Kent Miller, Mid-Plains Area Board member, also served on ACCT's national board. Mr. Miller again helped preside at Joint Commission Hearings, which heard testimony to guide national legislative initiatives, during the fourth ACCT/AACJC Federal Update Conference, again hosted by the Metropolitan Community College Area at Omaha.

State Chamber

The NTCCA continued its membership in the Nebraska State Chamber, with Executive Director Tom Johnston serving on the organization's Higher Education Subcommittee of the Education Committee. The NTCCA Board decided to pursue State Chamber endorsement of its FY 1990-91 budget request.

Nebraska New Car & Truck Dealers Association Scholarships

This year's recipients of the Carriage House Foundation scholarships, the high school they graduated from, and the Nebraska Community College they will attend were **Anthony Mark Volbrecht,** Stanton High School, Northeast CC-Norfolk; **David Juel Swanson,** Milford High School, Southeast CC-Milford; **JoEllen A. Braddock,** Scottsbluff High School, Western Nebraska CC-Scottsbluff; **Steven Ford,** Cody-Kilgore High School, Southeast CC-Milford; **Ryan Patrick Pecha,** Plattsmouth High School, Southeast CC-Milford; **Keven Stokes,** Red Cloud High School, Southeast CC-Milford.

Rule 20

The Nebraska Department of Education proposed a regulation, Rule 20, that would have prohibited Community College "professional education courses" from being transferred into four-year education and/or developmental psychology, foundations of education or introduction to education, and a pre-student teaching experience in the classroom. However, since these are all offered at the 100 or 200 level in some teacher education programs across the state, they therefore fit into Community College role and mission. Area boards and the NTCCA Board went on record in opposition to the proposed rule and the NTCCA executive director asked Charles Noren to render a legal opinion. After Mr. Noren presented a detailed legal document on the issue, the Area presidents agreed to approach Senator Dennis Byars and ask him to request an Attorney General's opinion on Rule 20. Ultimately, the Board of Education rejected the recommendations, due in large part to the rationale and arguments presented by the Association and Colleges.

Nebraska Council for Public Higher Education

The NTCCA Board issued a resolution on February 3 in support of and authorizing formation of the Public Higher Education Economic Development Network as proposed by the Nebraska Council for Public Higher Education. The network, to consist of line staff from all of public higher education who are involved with economic development, will meet two or three times per year in an effort to better coordinate economic development projects across sectors.

Energy Circuit Rider Program

The State Department of Energy developed the Energy Circuit Rider Program, using oil overcharge funds. A total of approximately $500,000 was made available for the pilot program to get energy conservation information to smaller entities. The Area presidents agreed to have Community Colleges serve as sites with the understanding that the program be fully funded and that the Colleges not be committed to continue should the project be unsuccessful.

CIR Workshop

The NTCCA held a CIR Workshop on Sept. 15 to aid Community College Area Boards of Governors and College administrators in more fully understanding the process of preparing and presenting materials at a hearing before the Nebraska Commission of Industrial Relations. About 35 Community College trustees and administrators attended the workshop presented by Bruce Wright, a Lincoln attorney. Mr. Wright's presentation covered the constitutional basis for the CIR and discussed the processes involved in determining arrays, making comparisons, and deciding adjustments. Attendees praised Mr. Wright for his knowledge of CIR proceedings and the materials he provided.

Media Report

Meetings of the Public Relations Council during the year, resulted in a five-year long-range plan to better inform Nebraska citizens about the Community College system and the vital necessity to adequately fund the colleges. A matrix for media efforts during the year was drawn up and coordination of media efforts for the Community College-UNL articulation project commenced. Overall, the 1989 objectives of the media plans were met as usage of press releases rose, cooperation was fostered between the NTCCA and the six Area public relations offices, coordination was carried out on the Community College-UNL articulation project (though the resulting "Transfer Handbook" was delayed, postponing most media efforts), and the quantity and quality of NTCCA publications improved. However, one major project of the five-year media plan was delayed. Production of a video was postponed due to requirements posed by the Community College system consideration of a self-study and the LB 247 higher education study. Preparing materials for internal and external consumption on these issues were given a higher priority. The video is now tentatively scheduled to be developed in 1991.

Office Equipment Upgrades

The appearance of NTCCA publications was greatly enhanced by the upgrading of computer equipment during 1989. With NTCCA Board approval, a computer fax board, a scanner, WordPerfect software, and a laser printer with expanded memory were purchased and installed in the NTCCA Office during 1989. The new equipment greatly enhanced the Association's capabilities in communications and document preparation, especially improving the image of documents and the speed with which they were produced. The fax board allows the sending of documents straight from a computer file or the scanning and sending of material. However, there was no room in the budget to replace the office copier. The NTCCA Office is looking at possible purchase in 1990.

1989 NTCCA BUDGET

Operating Budget

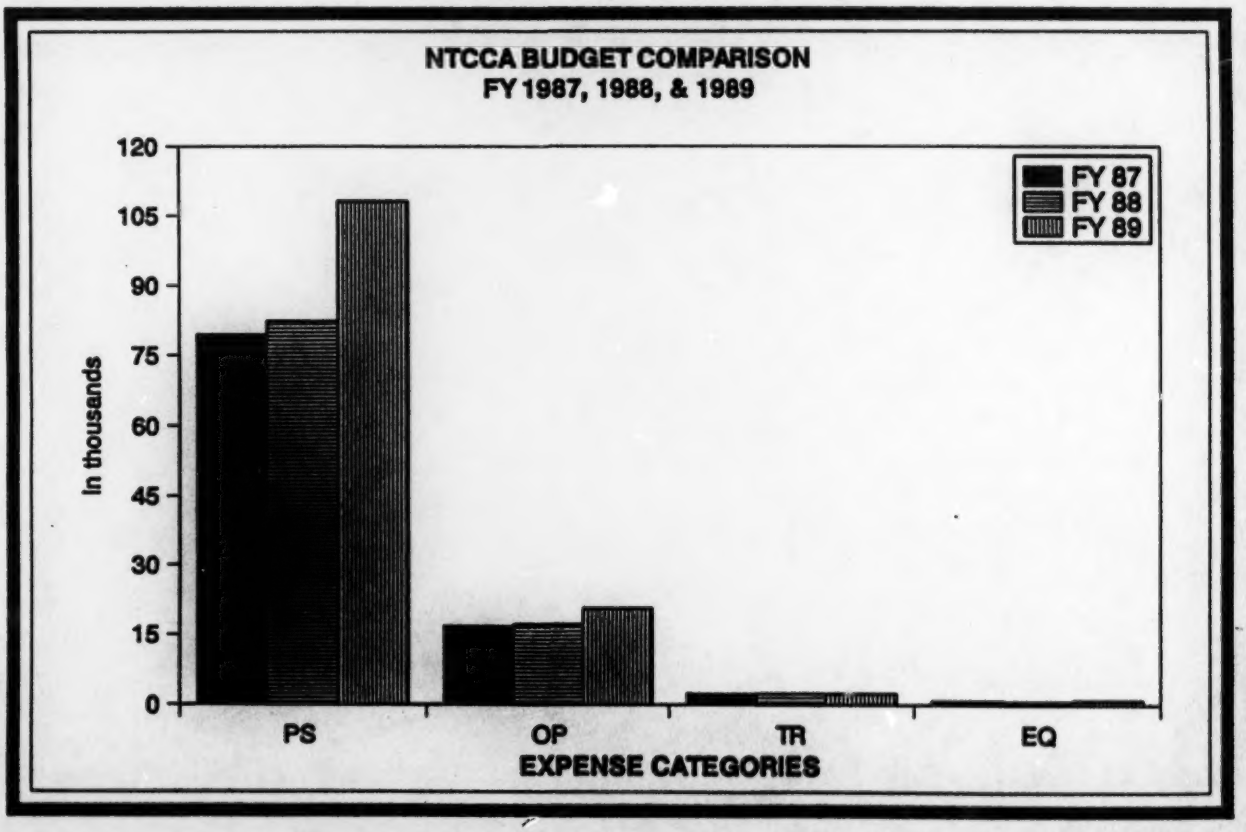
The NTCCA Board of Directors approved an operating budget of $132,390.26 for FY 1989, an increase of 28.88 percent over FY 1988. Personal services rose 35.55 percent, which allowed a 5.0 percent salary increase for current staff plus the addition of one full-time staff member. Operating expenses were increased 20.0 percent, capital outlay rose 51.72 percent, and travel expense was not increased.

Association Audit

The Western Area performed the 1989 NTCCA financial audit. Total 1989 revenues were $146,809.22, including $2,946.03 in interest income. Expenditures were $148,615.80. The year-end Association equity was $13,014.41.

NTCCA BUDGET COMPARISON - FY 1987, '88, '89

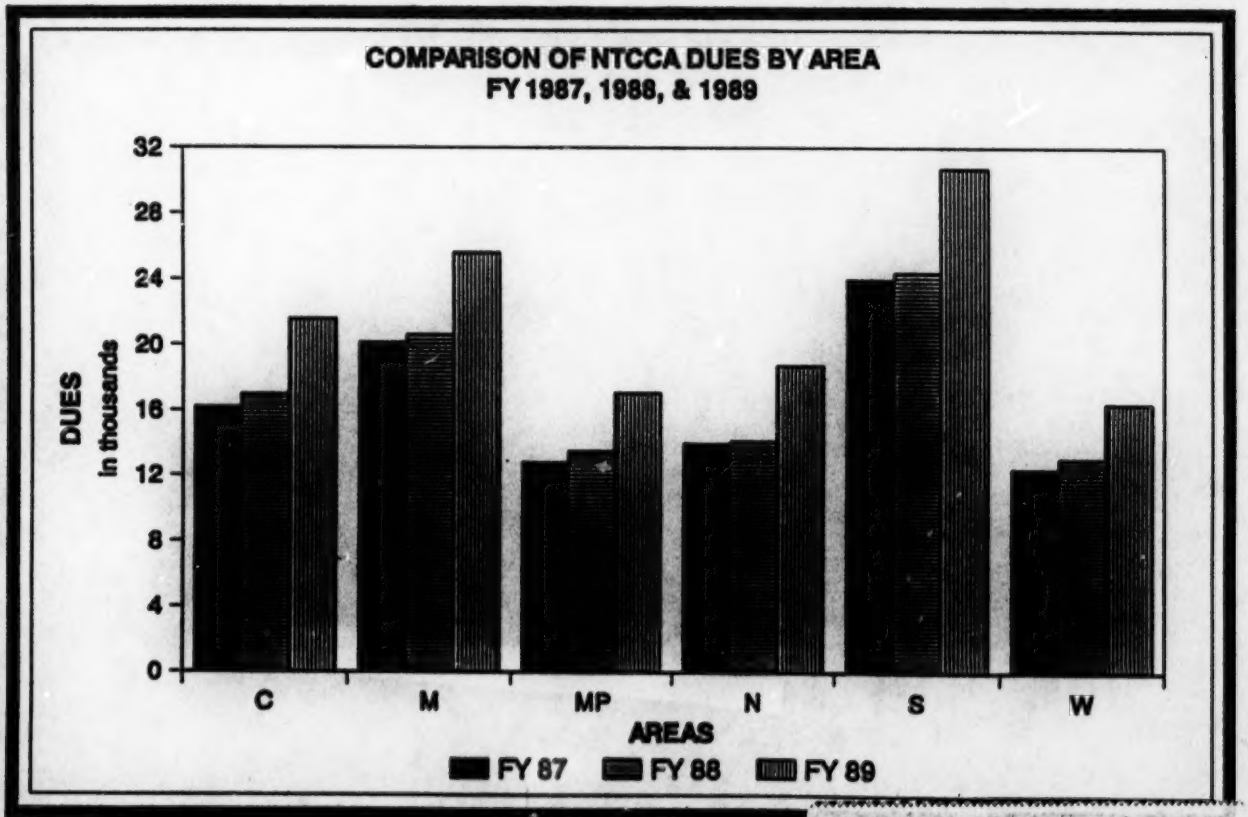
	FY 87	FY 88	% CHANGE	FY 88	% CHANGE
Personal Services	$79,397	$82,324	3.68%	$108,182	31.41%
Salaries	68,285	70,974	3.93%	92,798	30.75%
Other	22,223	11,350	2.14%	15,384	35.55%
Operating Expenses	$16,772	$17,174	2.40%	$20,608	20.00%
Travel Expenses	$2,500	$2,500	0.00%	$2,500	0.00%
Capital Outlay	$950	$725	-23.68%	$1,100	51.72%
TOTAL	$99,619	$102,723	3.12%	$132,390	28.88%



NTCCA FY 1989 TOTAL DUES BY AREA

The NTCCA dues schedule, as detailed in the *NTCCA Policy Manual*, states dues will be assessed one-half equally among Areas and one-half in proportion to the percent of REUs for each Area.

AREA	1/2 EQUAL	# REUS	% REUS	1/2 $/REUS	TOTAL	% OF TOTAL	% INC. OVER '88
Central	10,849.19	3,828.91	16.496%	10,727.99	21,587.18	16.58%	27.26%
Metro	10,849.19	5,259.06	22.657%	14,748.77	25,597.96	19.66%	24.20%
Mid-Plains	10,849.19	2,219.74	9.563%	6,225.15	17,074.34	13.11%	26.32%
Northeast	10,849.19	2,807.42	12.095%	7,873.27	18,722.46	14.38%	32.09%
Southeast	10,849.19	7,100.29	30.590%	19,912.41	30,761.60	23.63%	26.04%
Western	10,849.19	1,995.95	8.599%	5,597.54	16,446.73	12.63%	25.99%
TOTAL	65,095.14	23,211.37	100.000%	65,095.13	130,190.27	100.00%	26.74%



ERIC Clearinghouse for Junior Colleges

APR 05 1991